Sutaria, S; Allwood, D; Devakumar, D; Hall, J; Mandeville, K (2014) Glass ceiling for ethnic minority doctors? BMJ (Clinical research ed), 349. g7084. ISSN 0959-8138 DOI: https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.g7084

Downloaded from: http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/2026626/

DOI: 10.1136/bmj.g7084

Usage Guidelines

Please refer to usage guidelines at http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/policies.html or alternatively contact researchonline@lshtm.ac.uk.

Available under license: Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/
Glass ceiling for ethnic minority doctors?

Shailen Sutaria public health registrar¹, Dominique Allwood public health registrar², Delanjathan Devakumar public health registrar³, Jennifer Hall public health registrar³, Kate Mandeville public health registrar⁴

¹Department of Primary Care and Public Health, School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London, London W6 8RP, UK; ²UCL Partners, London, UK; ³Institute for Global Health, Faculty of Population Health Sciences, UCL, London, UK; ⁴London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK

We have enjoyed your series on the “movers and shakers of medicine” over the past year.¹ However, few of those interviewed are international medical graduates or from a black or minority ethnic group. Our analysis of the 45 medically qualified doctors interviewed found that only three (7%) were from black or minority ethnic groups and that only one (2%) was an international medical graduate from a low or middle income country.

While not claiming to be a representative sample, it does highlight the under-representation of these ethnic minority groups at the highest rungs of UK medicine. A perceived lack of role models may further hamper the ambition of future generations of doctors from these groups. Perhaps The BMJ could lead the way in reflecting achievements of a more diverse selection of the medical workforce?

Competing interests: None declared.

¹ BMJ Confidential. Alan Maryon-Davis: remarkably cheerful, considering. BMJ 2014;349:g6467. (29 October.)